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TITLE: COLOR IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD AND DEVICE  
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ABSTRACT:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To maintain the black rate of an original image in the case of converting a color signal between different coordinates.

SOLUTION: An equipment independent color signal on a representation color system coordinate is calculated from a color signal CiMiYiKi on 1st CMYK coordinates (S50). Then a maximum black amount of the color signal CiMiYiKi is calculated based on the color signal CiMiYiKi and the equipment independent color signal and a black rate (g) of the color signal CiMiYiKi is calculated based on the maximum black amount and a color signals K<SB>1</SB> (S54). The maximum black amount taken in a range of not revising the equipment independent color signal is calculated from the equipment independent color

signal (S56).

A color signal  $K_{0}$  on 2nd CMYK coordinates is decided based on the maximum black amount and the black rate and a chrominance signal  $C_{0}M_{0}Y_{0}$  on the CMYK coordinate is decided based on the equipment independent color signal and the color signal  $K_{0}$ .

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